

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE
Frederick Bernard v. Optima Tax Relief, LLC, et al.
Case No. 30-2022-01288055-CU-OE-CXC

EXHIBIT A
REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION (OPT-OUT FORM)
Bernard v. Optima Tax Relief, LLC | Class Action Settlement

⚠ DEADLINE — This form must be postmarked, emailed, or faxed to the Settlement Administrator no later than June 26, 2026 (the "Response Deadline"). Late submissions will not be accepted. If not timely submitted, you will remain a Participating Class Member bound by the Settlement.

NOTE: Submitting this form excludes you from the CLASS ACTION portion of the Settlement only. You will NOT receive an Individual Settlement Award. You may still pursue your own claims against Optima, subject to applicable statutes of limitations and Optima's defenses. You CANNOT opt out of the PAGA portion of the Settlement and will still receive an Individual PAGA Payment.

SECTION 1 — YOUR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION (ALL FIELDS REQUIRED)

Full Legal Name (First, Middle, Last):

Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number:

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY):

Current Mailing Address (Street / P.O. Box):

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP Code: _____

County: _____

Telephone Number:

Email Address: _____

SECTION 2 — STATEMENT OF EXCLUSION

By signing this form, I hereby elect to **OPT OUT** of, and be excluded from, the class action Settlement in *Frederick Bernard v. Optima Tax Relief, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2022-01288055-CU-OE-CXC, pending in the Orange County Superior Court.

I understand and acknowledge that:

- (1) I will **NOT** receive an Individual Settlement Award from the class action Settlement;
- (2) I will **NOT** be bound by the Released Claims or the class action release;
- (3) I **MAY** pursue my own individual claims against Optima, subject to applicable defenses and statutes of limitations; and
- (4) I am **STILL SUBJECT** to the PAGA Release and **WILL** receive an Individual PAGA Payment because the right to opt out does not extend to the PAGA portion of the Settlement.

Optional — Reason for exclusion (you are not required to provide a reason):

SECTION 3 — DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that: (1) I am the Settlement Class Member identified in Section 1 above; (2) the information provided in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge; and (3) I wish to be excluded from the class action Settlement as described above.

Signature: _____

Date Signed (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Print Name: _____

SECTION 4 — SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Return this completed and signed form to the Settlement Administrator by **one** of the following methods, so that it is **received or postmarked no later than June 26, 2026:**

Method	Details
U.S. Mail	ILYM Group, Inc. P.O. Box 2031, Tustin, CA 92781
Fax	(888) 845-6185 — Include a cover sheet identifying this case.
Email	info@ilymgroup.com — Attach a scanned signed copy of this completed form.

Do NOT submit this form to the Court, Class Counsel, or Defense Counsel. Only submissions sent to the Settlement Administrator will be accepted. The date of the postmark, fax transmission stamp, or email timestamp will be the exclusive means of determining timeliness.

ILYM Group, Inc. — Settlement Administrator
 ILYM Group, Inc. P.O. Box 2031, Tustin, CA 92781

Telephone: **(888) 250-6810** | Fax: **(888) 845-6185** | Email: **info@ilymgroup.com**
Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Pacific Time

NOTE: KEEP A COPY: Retain a copy of this completed form along with proof of mailing (e.g., postal receipt), fax confirmation, or email transmission confirmation for your records.

Questions? Contact the Settlement Administrator at **(888) 250-6810** or **info@ilymgroup.com**. Do **NOT** contact the Court or the Judge.